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Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/2 of 13 October 1993, by which it granted observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Recalling also its resolutions 50/1 of 12 October 1995, 51/21 of 27 November 1996 and 52/19 of 21 November 1997 and 53/15 of 29 October 1998, in all of which it urged the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and invited international financial institutions to extend their assistance to the Economic Cooperation Organization in the attainment of its objectives,

Recalling further that one of the main objectives of the United Nations and Economic Cooperation Organization is to promote international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character,

Mindful of the role of the Economic Cooperation Organization as a regional organization which after having restructured itself is now better prepared to play an enhanced role as a regional economic grouping for all-round socio-economic development of its member States,

Welcoming the recent developments concerning the increased interaction between the various entities of the United Nations system and the Economic Cooperation Organization towards promoting the economic and social development of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Taking note of the communiqué issued at the ninth meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Economic Cooperation Organization held in Baku, Azerbaijan, on 21 May 1999, which stressed the importance of, and the renewed resolve of the States members of the

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Economic Cooperation Organization with regard to socio-economic development and enhanced trade exchanges in the Economic Cooperation Organization region,

Recognizing the risks and challenges posed as well as the opportunities offered by the process of globalization and liberalization to the economies of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization and emphasizing the need to address the concerns of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization in order to mitigate the negative consequences of globalization and enable them to benefit from the process,

Expressing grave concern over the heavy human casualties caused by natural disasters and their devastating impact on the socio-economic situation of some States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/15[1] and expresses satisfaction at the enhanced pace of mutually beneficial interaction between the two organizations;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the ongoing cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Development Programme through the project "Capacity-building of the Economic Cooperation Organization secretariat" and invites the two organizations to continue to enhance and strengthen their ongoing cooperation;

3. *Notes* the keen participation of the Economic Cooperation Organization in various events sponsored by the specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations system such as the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the United Nations Population Fund during the past year and calls for further contacts and active participation, as appropriate, of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the specialized agencies in each other's meetings and activities;

4. *Welcomes* the ongoing cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development including the Trade Efficiency Action Programme and the development of a multimodal transport and transit transport system in the Economic Cooperation Organization region;

5. *Appreciates* the ongoing cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme including, *inter alia*, the implementation of the Economic Cooperation Organization-United Nations International Drug Control Programme project for the establishment of a drug control coordination unit within the Economic Cooperation Organization secretariat and other activities contributing towards curtailment of the drug abuses and drug trafficking in the Economic Cooperation Organization region;

6. *Welcomes* the recommendations of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its fifty-fifth session, held in Bangkok from 22 to 28 April 1999, on promoting cooperation with the Economic Cooperation Organization in identified areas of mutual concern, and invites the Commission to enhance mutual collaboration with the Economic Cooperation Organization focusing on implementable projects in the priority areas of the Economic Cooperation Organization, namely, transport and communications, trade, investment, energy, environment, industry and agriculture, for the overall benefit of the entire region;

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7. *Also welcomes* the continuation of efforts towards further consolidation of interregional consultations and exchange of views on issues of common concern through such useful forums as the fourth Consultative Meeting among Executive Heads of Subregional Organizations and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, held at Kathmandu in October 1998;

8. *Further welcomes* the enhanced contacts between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the World Bank in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 53/15 and reiterates its invitation addressed to the relevant international financial institutions to initiate, maintain and increase consultations in order to extend their assistance to the Economic Cooperation Organization and its associated institutions towards the realization of their objectives;

9. *Requests* the United Nations system and the international community to continue assisting in the strengthening of the capacity of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization as well as the Economic Cooperation Organization secretariat to meet the challenges, and benefit from the opportunities, of globalization;

10. *Invites* the United Nations system, its relevant bodies and the international community to provide technical and other assistance, as appropriate, to the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Cooperation Organization secretariat in strengthening their early warning system, preparedness, timely response and reconstruction with a view to reducing human casualties and mitigating the socio-economic impact of natural disasters;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization".